

To: Deegan, Dave[Deegan.Dave@epa.gov]
Cc: Mears, Mary[Mears.Mary@epa.gov]; Kluesner, Dave[kluesner.dave@epa.gov]; Martin, John[Martin.JohnJ@epa.gov]; Gutro, Doug[Gutro.Doug@epa.gov]; Bender, Emily[Bender.Emily@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Benenati, Frank[benenati.frank@epa.gov]; Cote, Mel[Cote.Mel@epa.gov]; Hamjian, Lynne[Hamjian.Lynne@epa.gov]; Moraff, Kenneth[Moraff.Ken@epa.gov]; Stein, Mark[Stein.Mark@epa.gov]; Dierker, Carl[Dierker.Carl@epa.gov]; Spalding, Curt[Spalding.Curt@epa.gov]
From: Harrison, Melissa
Sent: Tue 12/6/2016 10:27:18 PM
Subject: Re: Statement sent re. LIS & NY State

Non-responsive; Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process, Attorney-Client, Attorney Work Product

Melissa J. Harrison
Deputy Associate Administrator
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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On Dec 6, 2016, at 4:59 PM, Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov> wrote:

Non-responsive; Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Previous quote from EPA Region 1 Administrator Curt Spalding:

“Our decision is based on sound science, reflects extensive public input, and strikes an

Non-responsive; Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Dave

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dave Deegan

U.S. EPA, New England Regional Office

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[<image001.jpg>](#) [<image002.jpg>](#)

From: Harrison, Melissa

Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 3:53 PM

To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>; Kluesner, Dave <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>

Cc: Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Bender, Emily <Bender.Emily@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Benenati, Frank <benenati.frank@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Proposed statement re. LIS & NY State

Non-responsive; Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Melissa J. Harrison

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From: Deegan, Dave

Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 3:08 PM

To: Harrison, Melissa <Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov>; Mears, Mary
<Mears.Mary@epa.gov>; Kluesner, Dave <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>

Cc: Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>; Bender, Emily <Bender.Emily@epa.gov>;
Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>

Subject: Proposed statement re. LIS & NY State

Non-responsive; Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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[<image006.jpg>](#) [<image007.jpg>](#)

From: Eltman, Frank [<mailto:FEltman@ap.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 1:26 PM

To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES NEW YORK'S INTENT TO SUE THE
U.S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OVER EASTERN LONG ISLAND
SOUND DISPOSAL SITE DESIGNATION

Good afternoon: Please advise if the EPA has comment on today's announcement from
Gov. Cuomo (see below)?

Thank you

FJE

Frank Eltman

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From: Press Office [<mailto:Press.Office@exec.ny.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 1:18 PM

To: Eltman, Frank

Subject: GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES NEW YORK'S INTENT TO SUE THE U.S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OVER EASTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND DISPOSAL SITE DESIGNATION

<image008.jpg>

For Immediate Release: 12/6/2016

GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

**GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCES NEW YORK'S INTENT TO SUE THE U.S.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OVER EASTERN LONG ISLAND
SOUND DISPOSAL SITE DESIGNATION**

***Notice Filed by New York Cites Ocean Dumping Act Violations and EPA's
Failure to Address Environmental Impacts on the Long Island Sound***

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that New York intends to sue the United States Environmental Protection Agency and challenge EPA's decision to designate the eastern Long Island Sound as a permanent disposal site for dredged materials. In a letter filed today, New York informed the federal government that the EPA's designation of the eastern Long Island Sound as a disposal site is a direct violation of the designation criteria outlined in existing federal law, referred to as the "Ocean Dumping Act."

"As I have said time and again, New York is deeply concerned with the EPA's efforts to designate a permanent dumping site in the eastern part of the Long Island Sound," **Governor Cuomo said.** "Continuing to use this precious economic and ecological resource as a dumping ground is unacceptable and -- on behalf of current and future generations of New Yorkers -- we intend to fight this decision using any and all legal means."

New York's notice of intent to sue comes on the same day as the EPA's publication of its final rule designating the disposal site. The State must now wait 60 days from the date of the letter before filing a legal claim against the EPA under the Ocean Dumping Act.

New York Secretary of State Rossana Rosado said, "I commend Governor

Cuomo for this action to prevent the disposal of dredged material in the Eastern Long Island Sound. We remain committed to protecting these waters, which serve many New Yorkers in so many ways."

Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "Long Island Sound is an essential economic and environmental treasure in New York and one in which the state has invested billions to restore. DEC commends Governor Cuomo's resolve in ensuring this vital estuary is not turned into a dumping ground."

In 2005, New York State called for, and EPA subsequently established, a regulatory goal of reducing or eliminating dredged material disposal in the open waters of the Long Island Sound. The EPA's plan to allow new dumping sites in eastern Long Island Sound contradicts this agreement.

According to an examination conducted by the New York Departments of State and Environmental Conservation, the EPA has not sufficiently considered the cumulative effects of dumping dredged materials into the Sound, did not prioritize alternatives to open water dumping, and didn't go far enough in analyzing other existing and available disposal sites.

New York also maintains that increasing the volume of open-water disposal of dredged materials, and the number and availability of open water disposal sites, is inconsistent with public investment and policies that are already in place aimed at restoring the Long Island Sound. Further, the EPA has not been responsive to the State's concern about the sediment testing and its reliability and has made insufficient assurances that the dredged material will not have a negative impact on the environment.

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New York State | Executive Chamber | press.office@exec.ny.gov | 518.474.8418